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Pan

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(54) **CHAIR ADJUSTABLE TO DIFFERENT HEIGHTS AND ANGLES**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **297/302.1; 297/463.1; 297/300.2; 297/316; 297/325**

(58) **Field of Search** **297/302.1, 302.3, 297/302.7, 302.4, 300.4, 300.2, 300.8, 463.1, 316, 325, 326, 327, 328**

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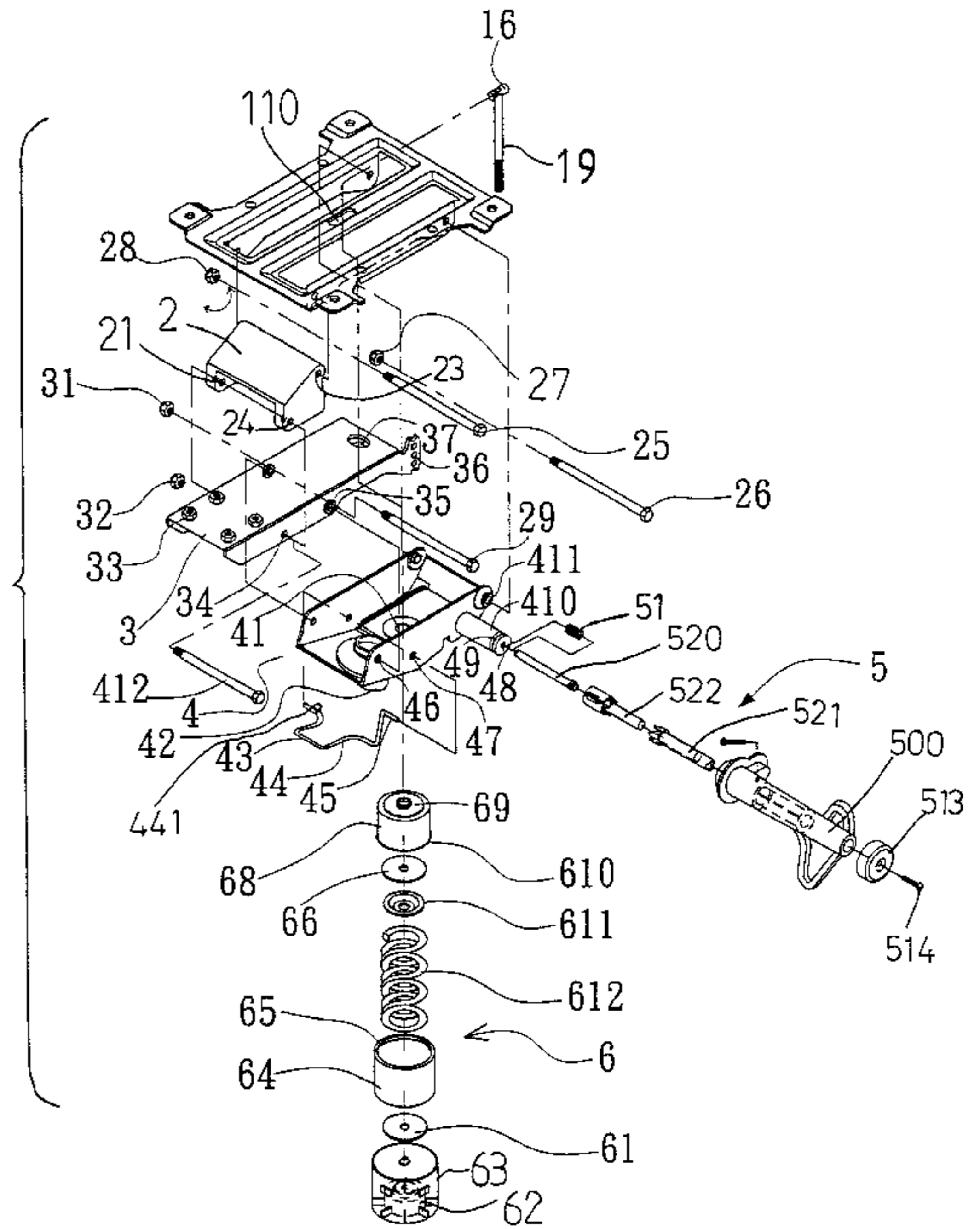
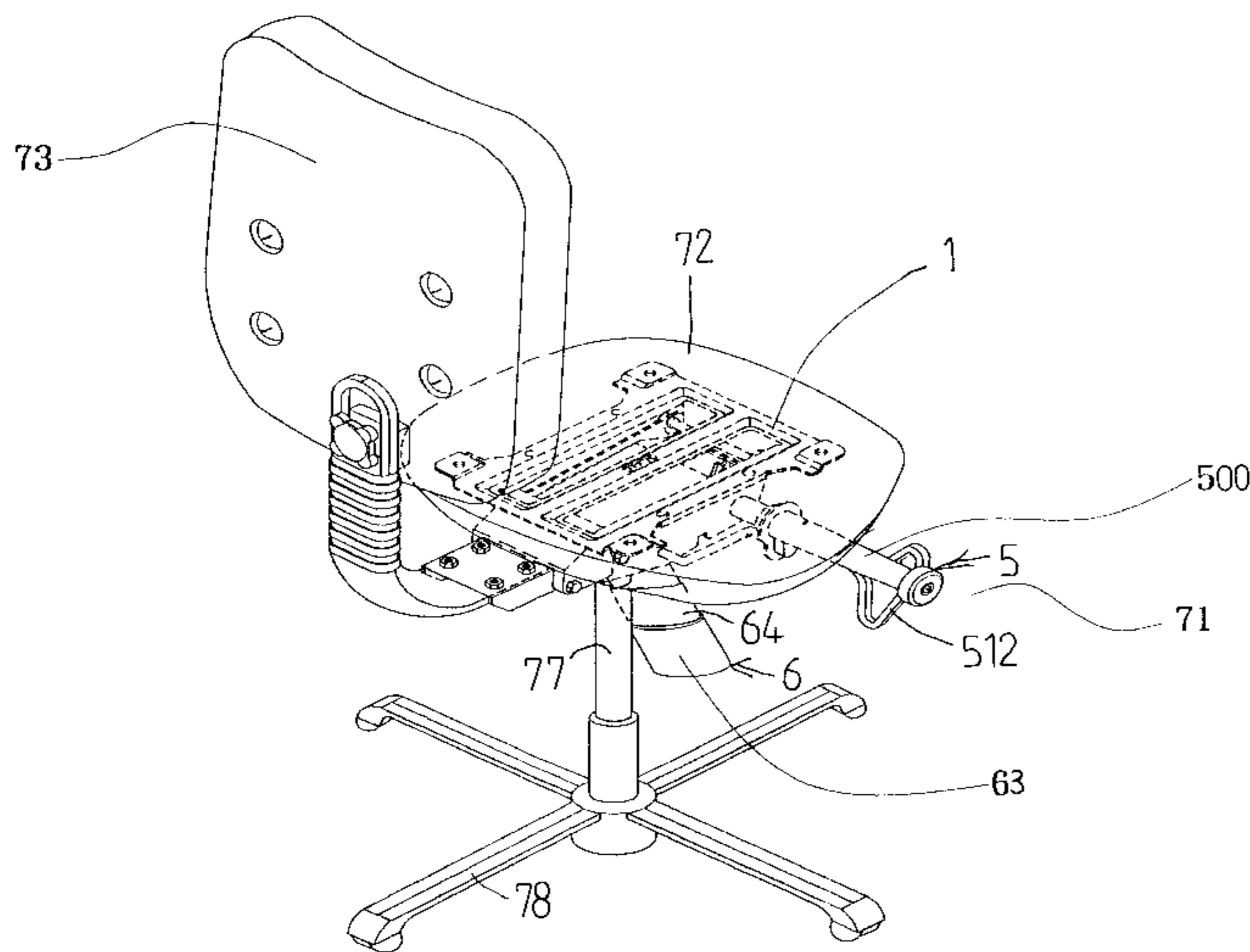
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A chair includes an actuator having an actuator button disposed on top, a base secured on the actuator, a spring engaged in the base and having an actuator arm engaged on the actuator button for actuating the actuator button to release the actuator. A barrel is rotatably secured to the base. A bar is pivotally and adjustably secured to the base and adjustable relative to the base at any selected angular position. A latch is slidably engaged in the base and selectively engaged with the bar for adjustably securing the bar and the seat cushion to the base.

9 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets



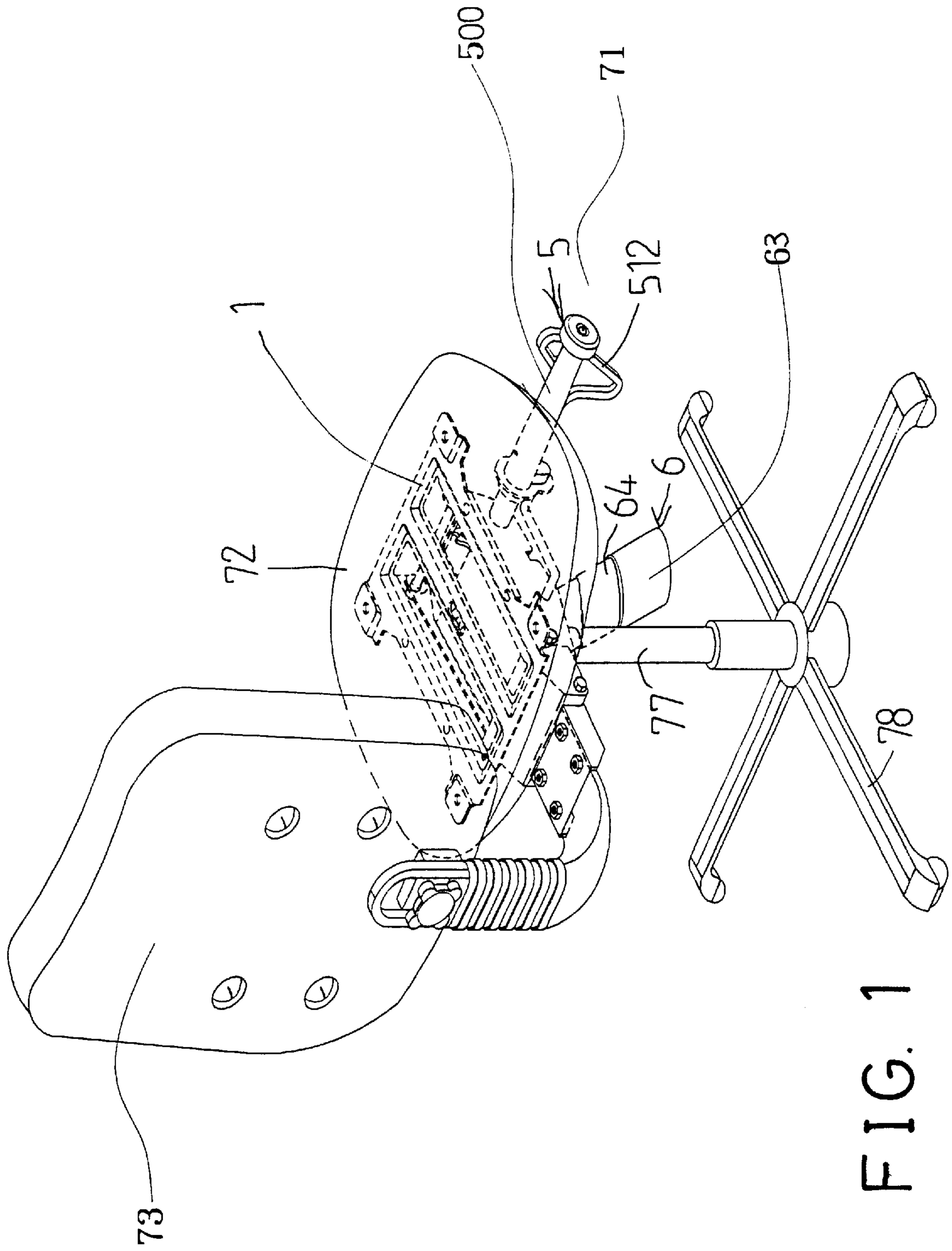


FIG. 1

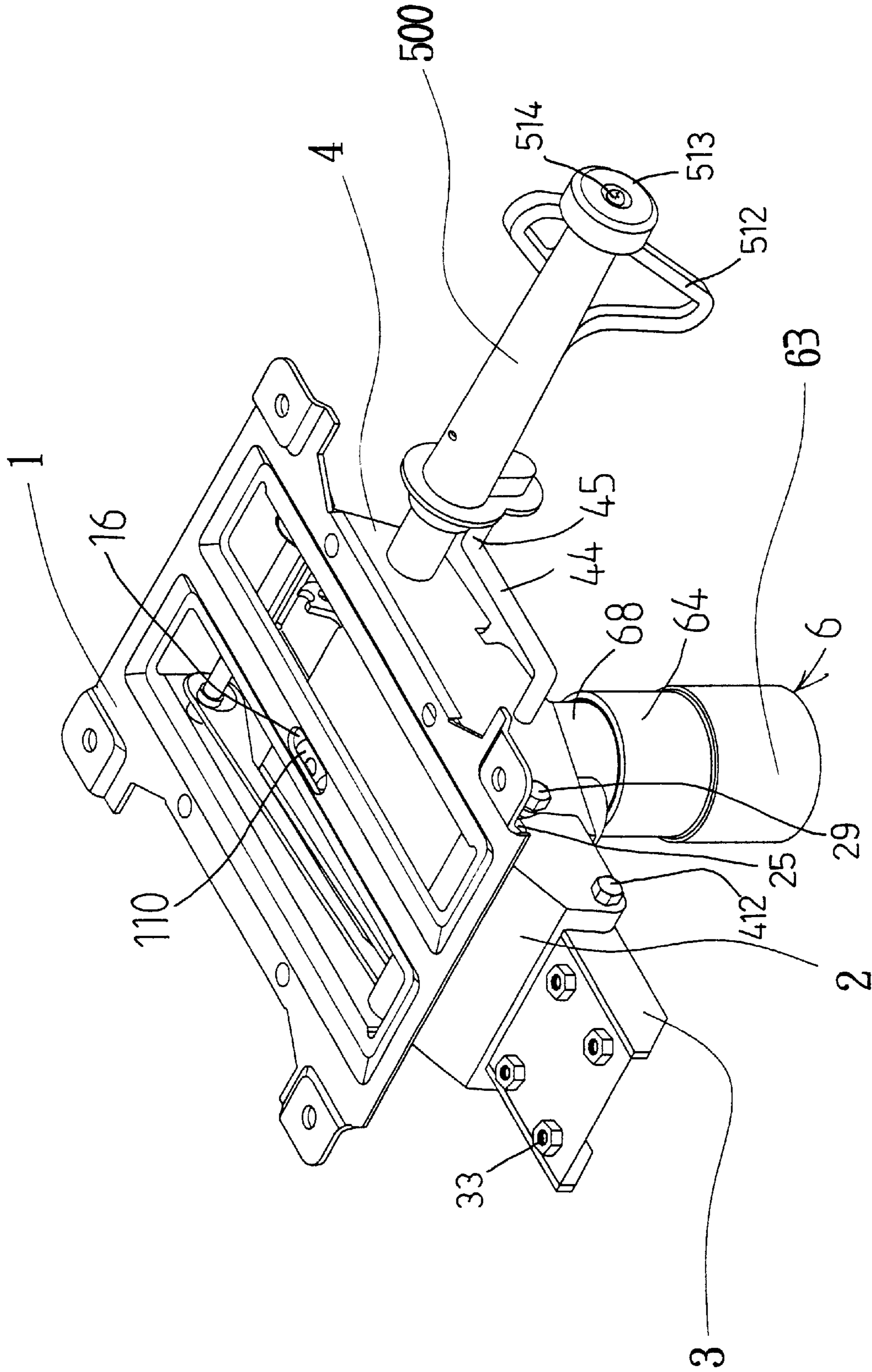


FIG. 2

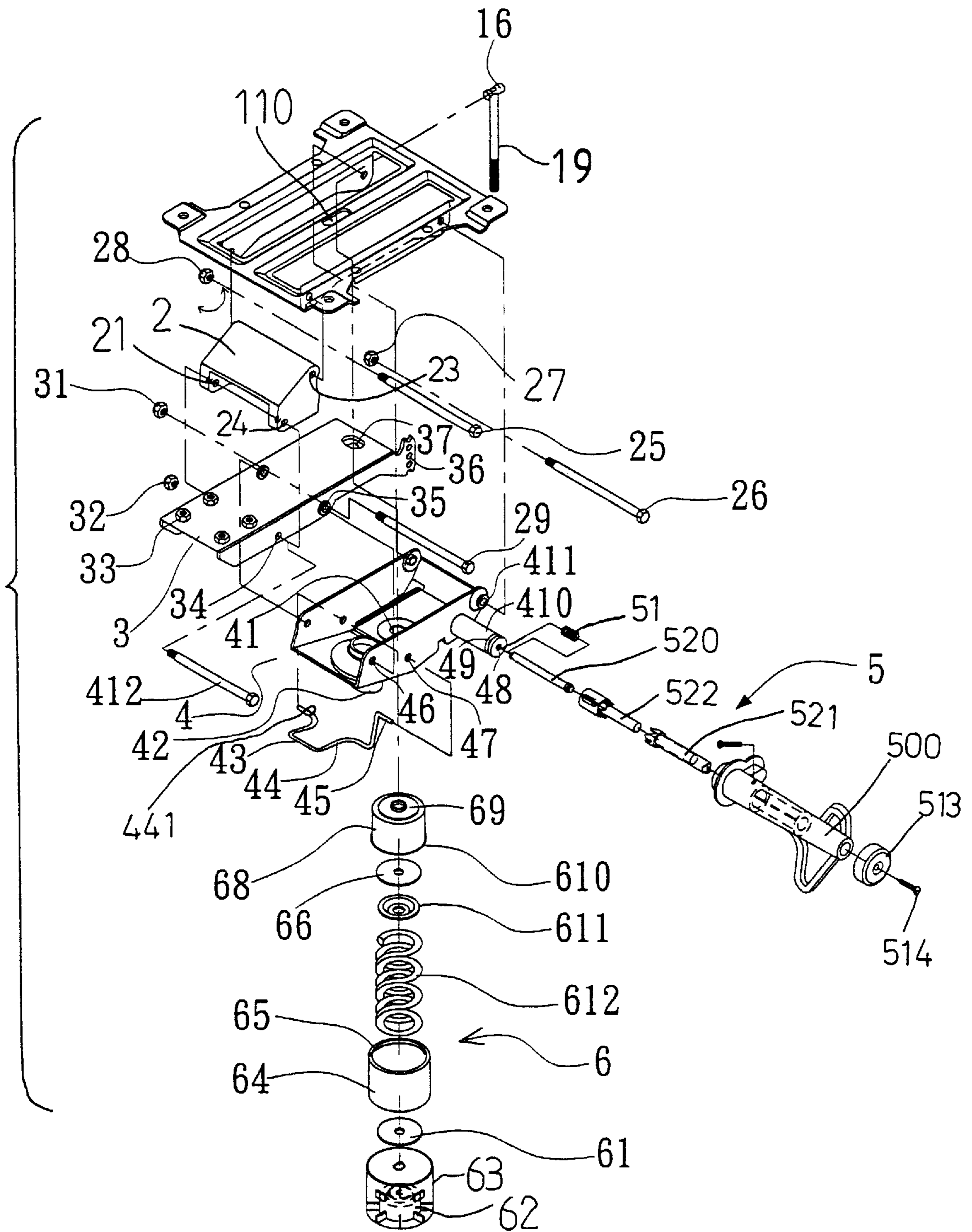


FIG. 3

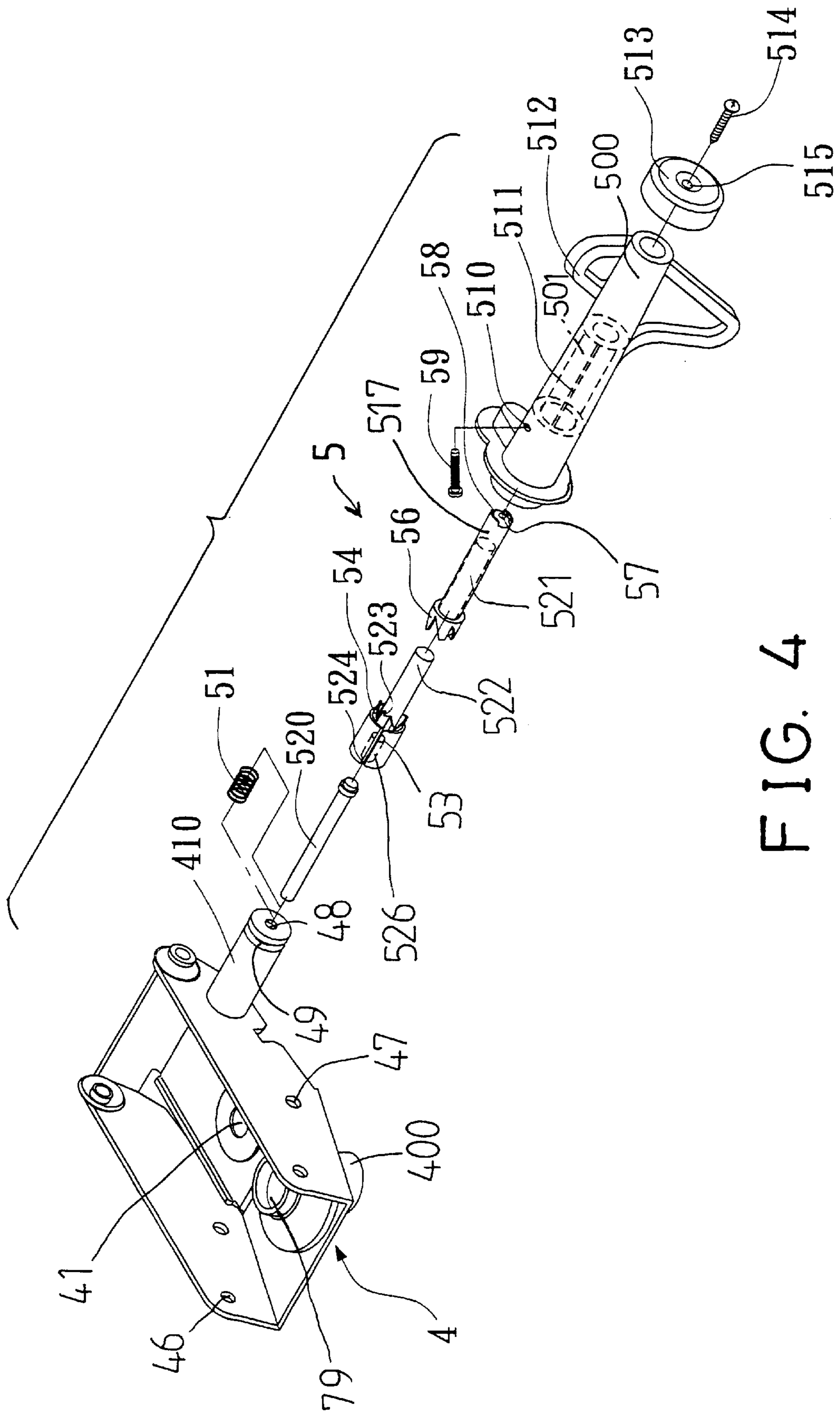


FIG. 4

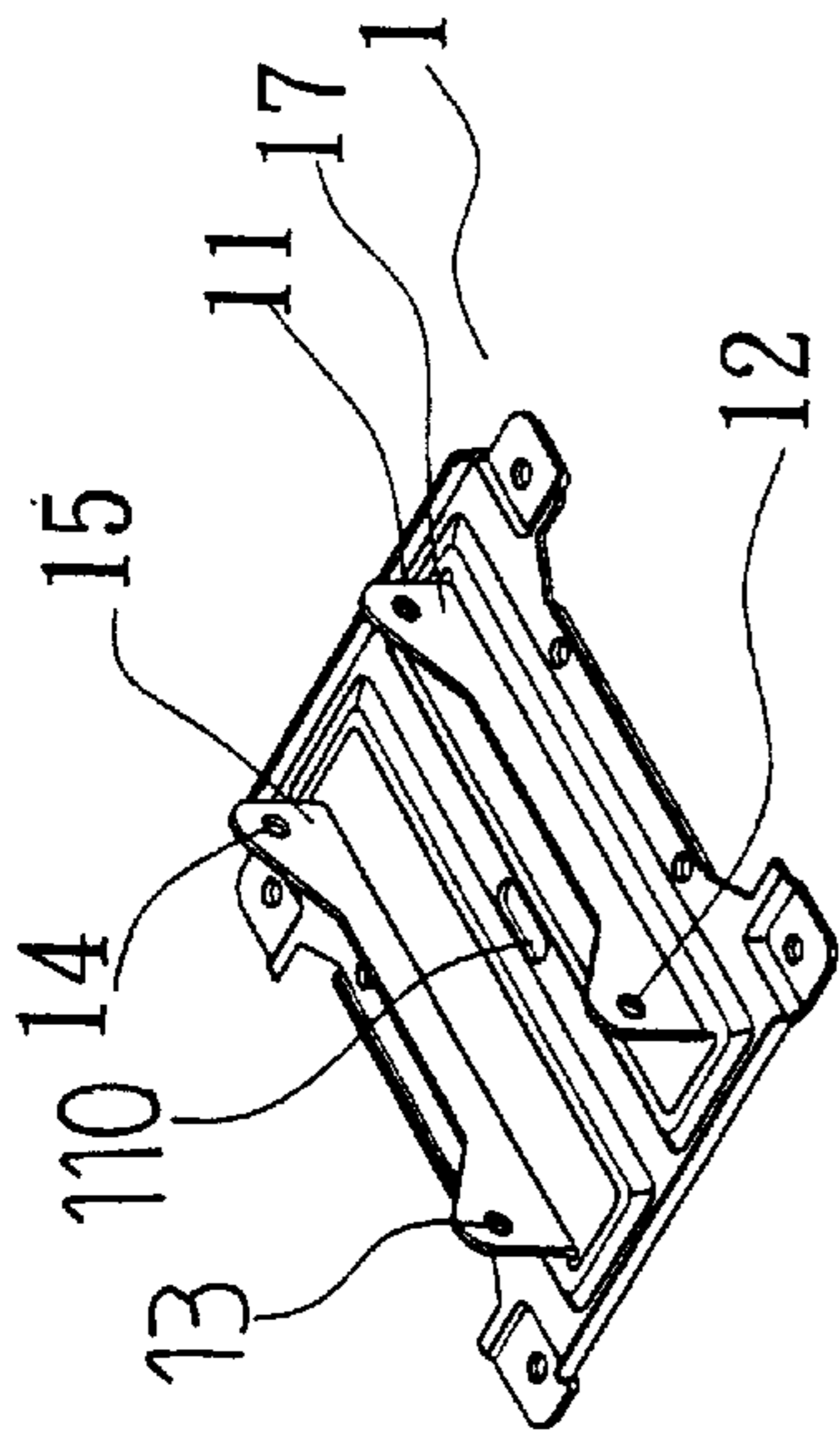


FIG. 5

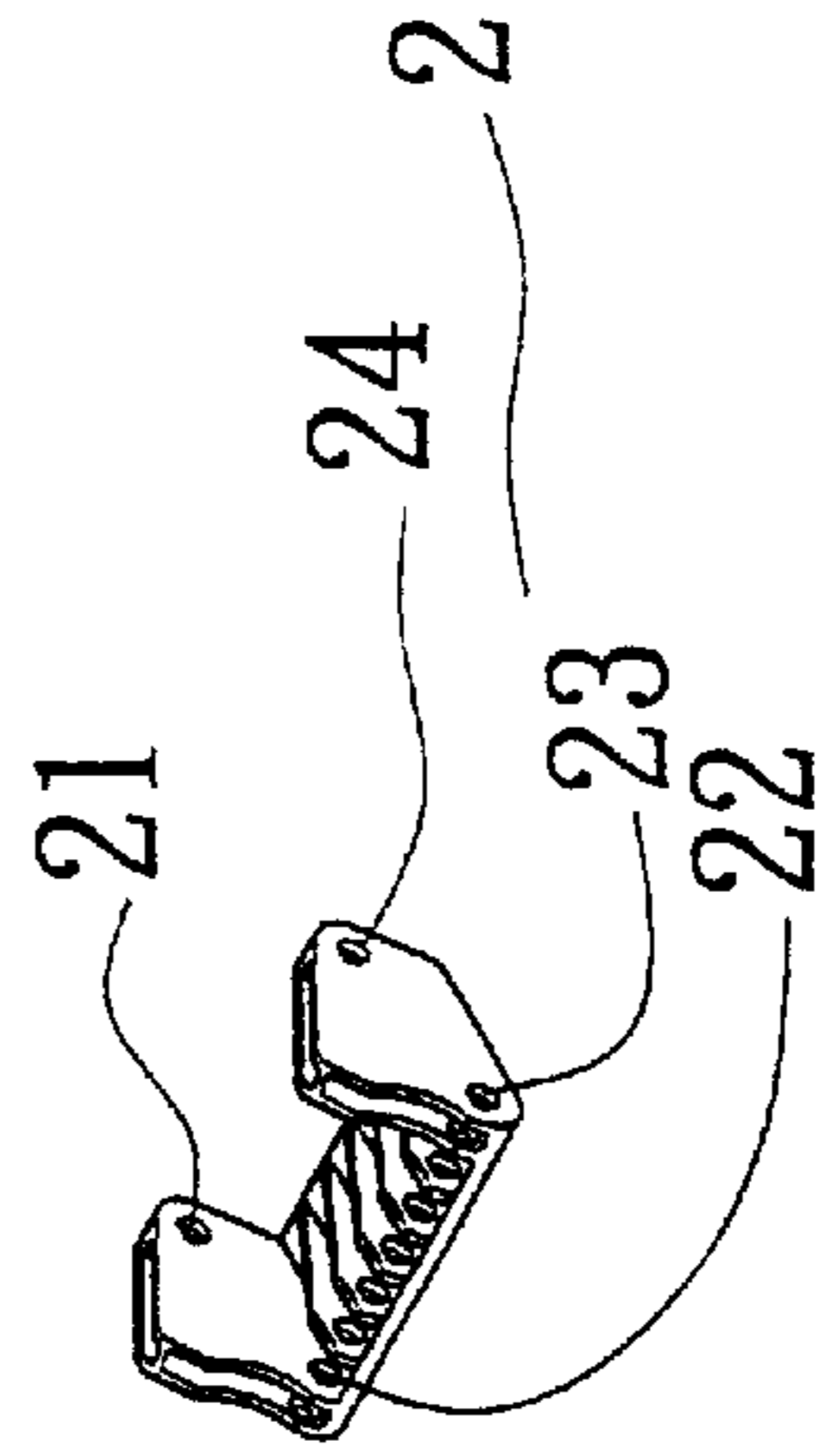


FIG. 6

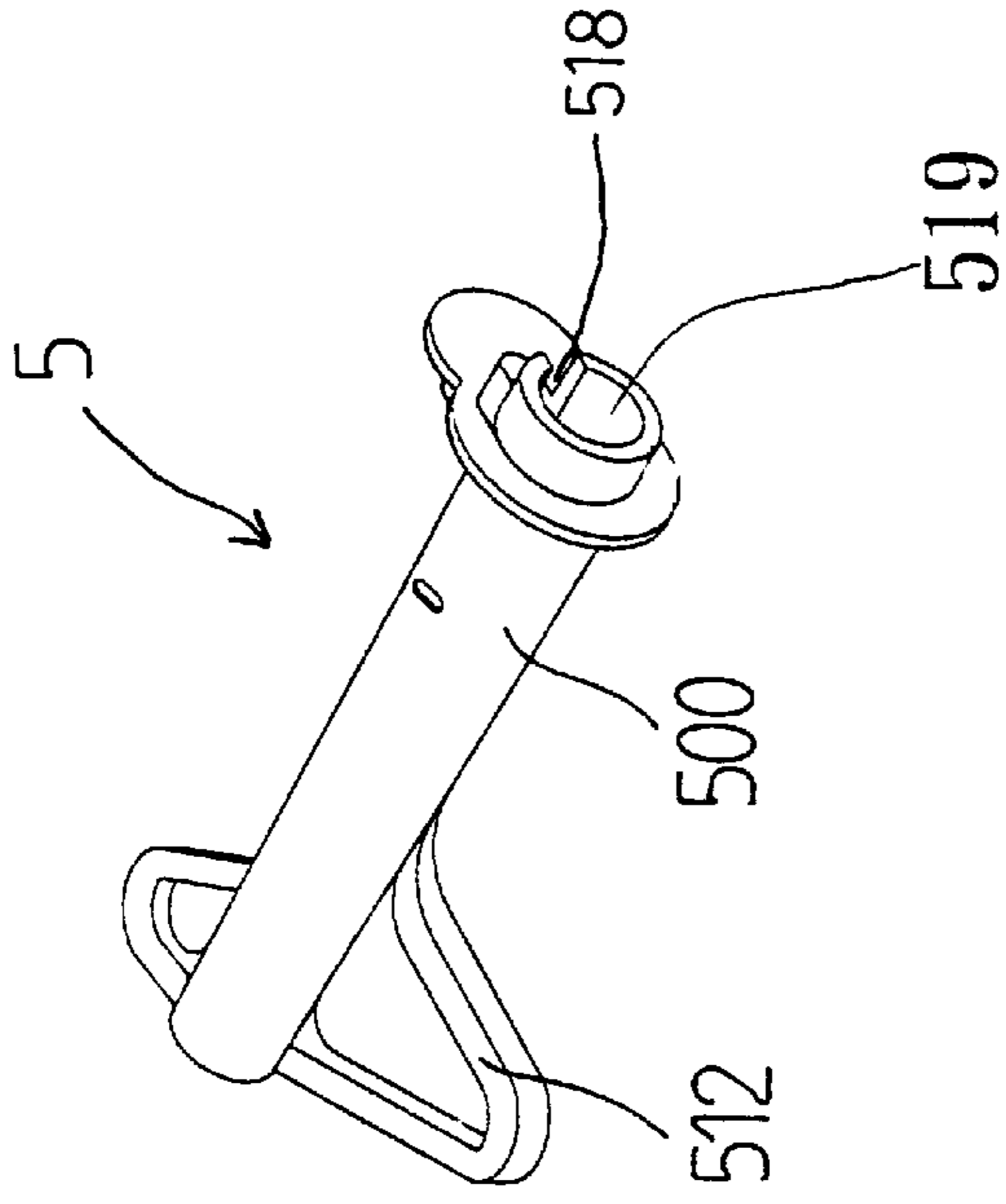


FIG. 7

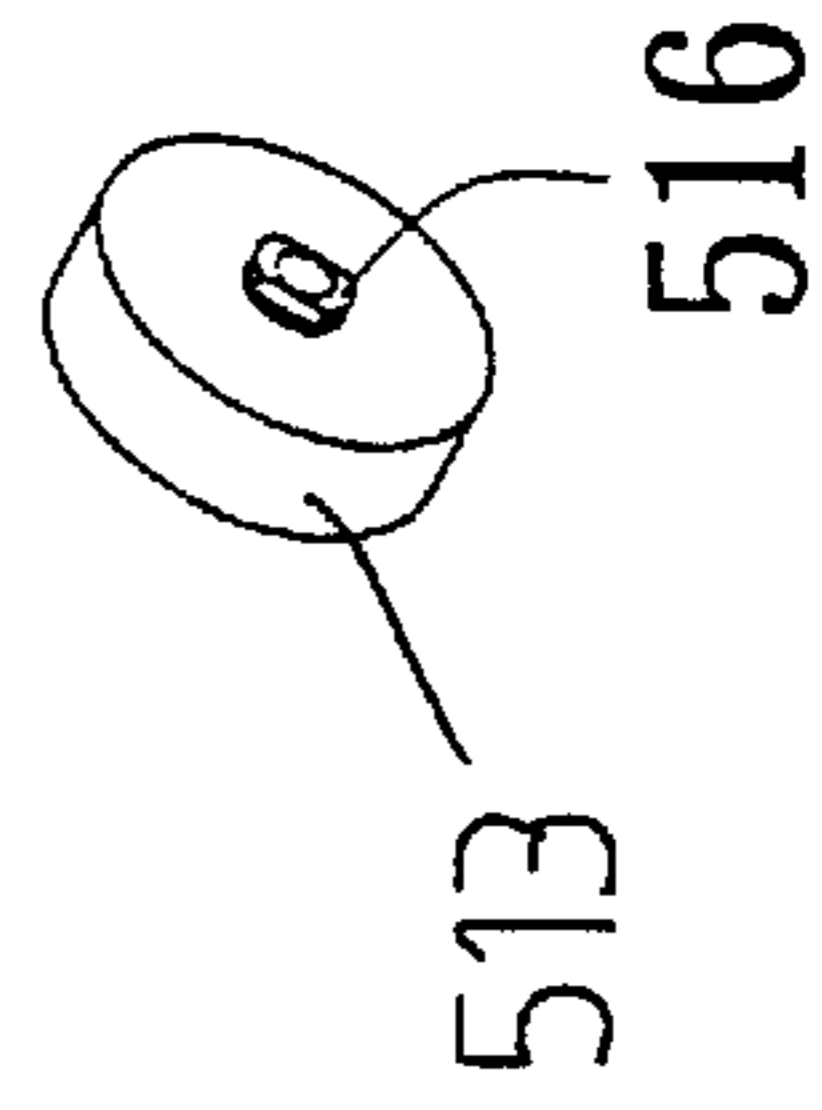


FIG. 8

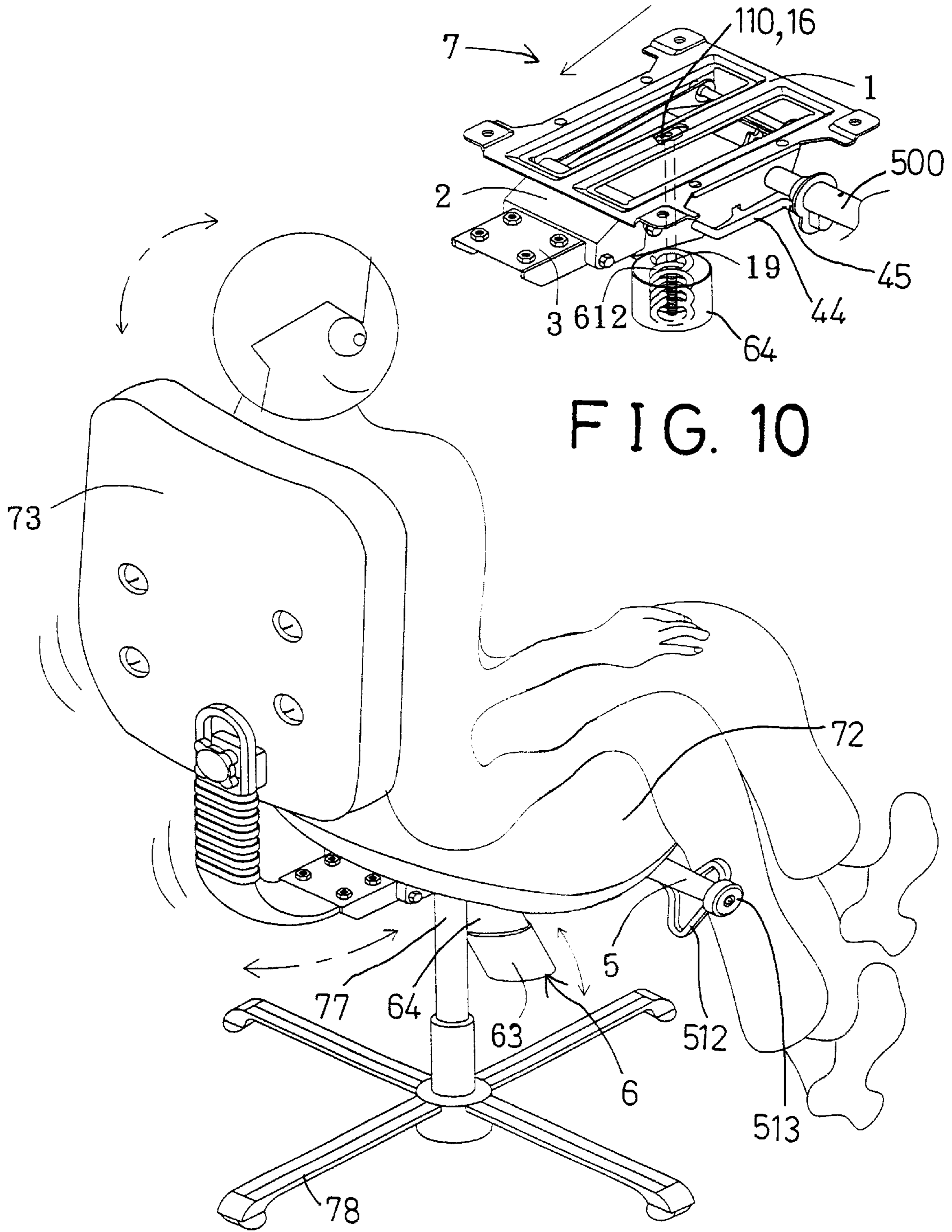


FIG. 10

FIG. 9

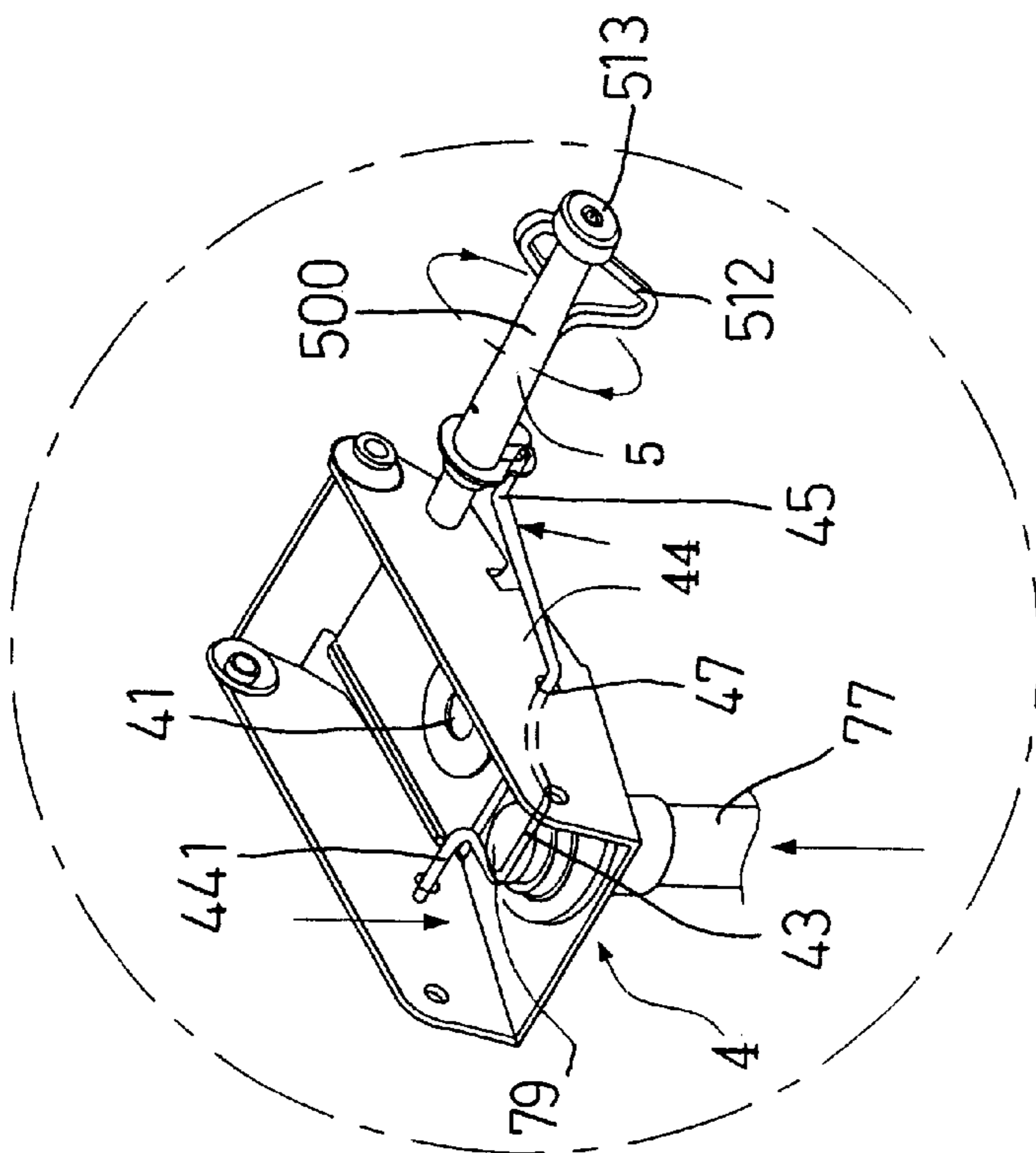


FIG. 11

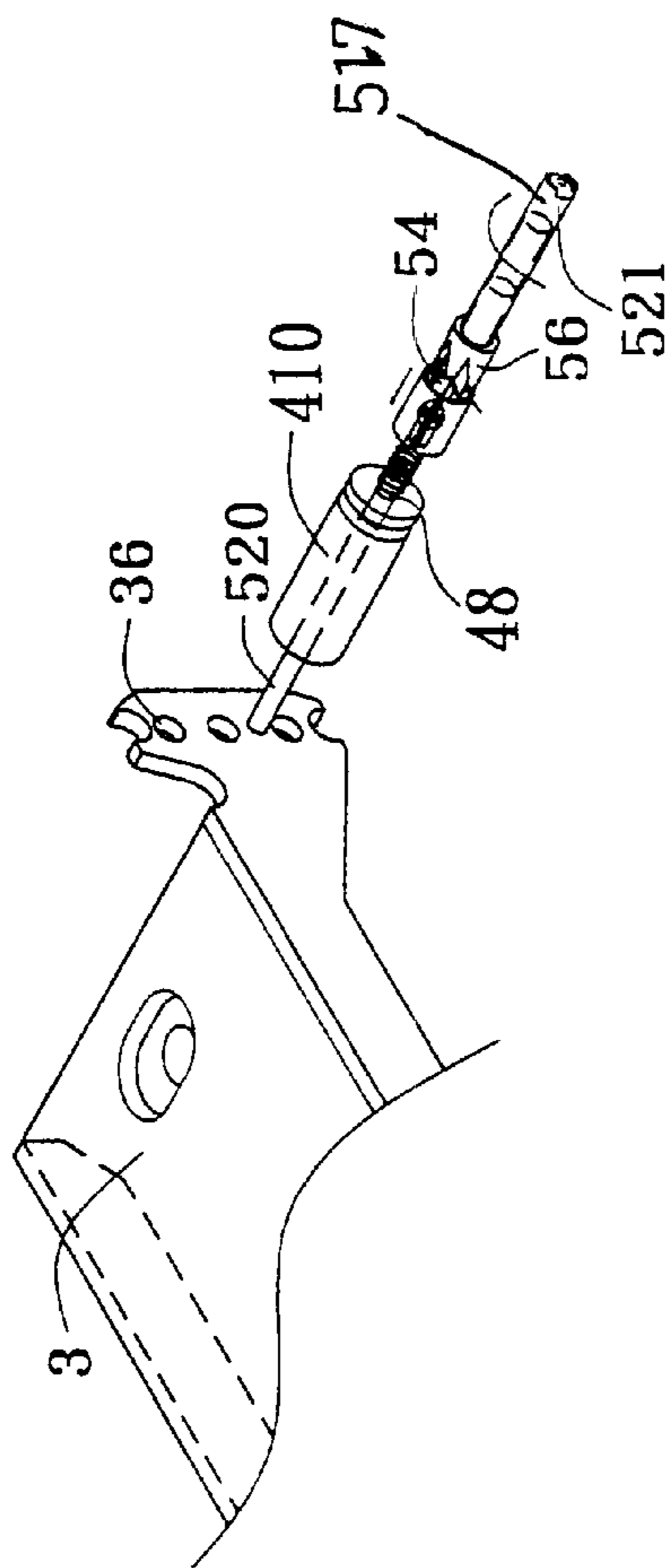


FIG. 12

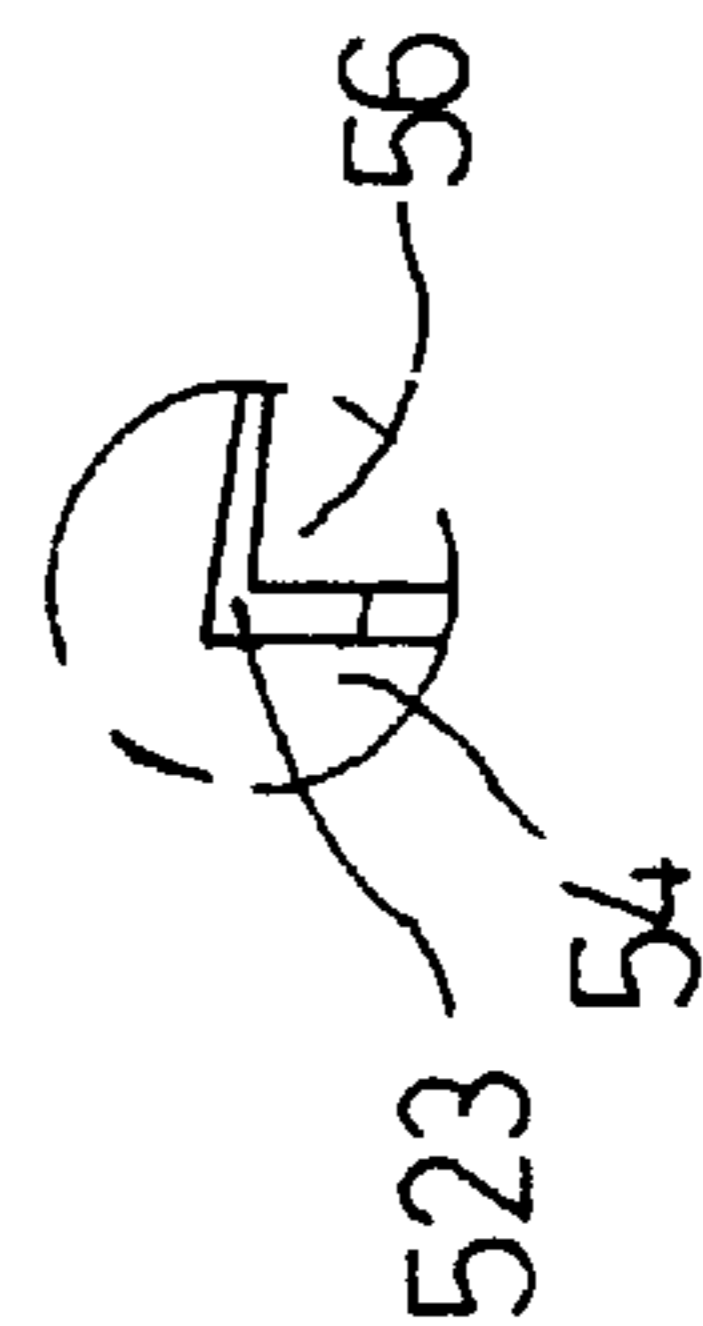


FIG. 13



FIG. 14

CHAIR ADJUSTABLE TO DIFFERENT HEIGHTS AND ANGLES

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a chair, and more particularly to a chair having an adjusting mechanism for adjusting the chair to different heights and/or to different angular positions.

2. Description of the Prior Art

Typical seats or chairs include various kinds of adjusting devices or mechanism for adjusting the chairs to different heights. The other adjusting devices or mechanism may be used for adjusting the chairs to different heights. None of the prior chairs have an adjusting devices or mechanism for adjusting the chairs to different heights and to different angular positions.

The present invention has arisen to mitigate and/or obviate the afore-described disadvantages of the conventional chairs.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The primary objective of the present invention is to provide a chair including an adjusting mechanism that may be used for easily adjusting the chair to different heights and/or to different angular positions.

In accordance with one aspect of the invention, there is provided a chair comprising an actuator including an upper portion having an actuator button provided therein, a base secured on the upper portion of the actuator and including a front portion, a spring engaged in the base and including an actuator arm engaged on the actuator button of the actuator, and means for actuating the actuator arm of the spring to engage with and to actuate the actuator button and to release the actuator.

The spring includes two legs rotatably secured to the base, the actuating means is provided for rotating the spring about the legs thereof for forcing the actuator arm of the spring to actuate the actuator button.

The actuating means includes a barrel rotatably secured to the base, the spring includes an extension extended therefrom and engaged with the barrel for allowing the spring to be rotated about the legs thereof by the extension and the barrel.

A bar is further provided and includes a middle portion pivotally secured to the base with a pivot shaft and includes a rear portion and includes a front portion, a seat back secured to the rear portion of the bar, and means for securing the front portion of the bar to the base.

The securing means includes a plurality of apertures formed in the front portion of the bar, a latch slidably engaged in the base for selectively engaging into either of the apertures of the bar and for adjustably securing the bar to the base.

The base includes a conduit extended therefrom, the latch is slidably received in the conduit and extendible inward of the base to engage with either of the apertures of the bar and to adjustably secure the bar to the base.

A device is further provided for forcing the latch to engage into either of the apertures of the bar, and includes a barrel rotatably engaged onto the conduit, a follower slidably received in the barrel and having a bore formed therein for slidably receiving the latch, means for preventing

the follower from rotating relative to the barrel, a tube rotatably received in the barrel and having a bore formed therein for slidably and partially receiving the follower, and means for moving the follower and the latch toward the bar when the tube is rotated relative to the follower.

The moving means includes a plurality of ratchet teeth formed on the follower and the tube and engaged with each other. The follower includes a plurality of notches formed between the ratchet teeth thereof, the ratchet teeth of the follower each includes a recess formed therein for receiving the ratchet teeth of the tube. A knob is further provided and secured to the tube for rotating the tube relative to the barrel.

A coupler includes a rear portion pivotally secured to the rear portion of the bar and includes a front portion, a board includes a front portion pivotally secured to the front portion of the base with a first pivot pole and includes a rear portion pivotally secured to the front portion of the coupler with a second pivot pole.

A device is further provided for biasing the board toward the base and includes a rod having a first end engaged with the board and having a second end extended through the base and extended downward beyond the base, and a spring engaged between the second end of the rod and the base.

A device is further provided for shielding the spring and includes a sleeve and a casing engaged on the rod and slidably engaged with each other, the spring is received in the sleeve and the casing.

A device is further provided for limiting the sleeve to move relative to the casing and to prevent the sleeve from being disengaged from the casing, and includes a peripheral flange formed on said sleeve and includes a peripheral flange formed on said casing and engaged with the peripheral flange of the sleeve for limiting the sleeve to move relative to the casing and to prevent the sleeve from being disengaged from the casing.

Further objectives and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from a careful reading of a detailed description provided hereinbelow, with appropriate reference to accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a rear perspective view of a chair in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a partial perspective view showing a portion or an adjusting mechanism of the chair;

FIGS. 3, 4 are partial exploded views showing the elements of the adjusting mechanism of the chair;

FIGS. 5, 6, 7, 8 are perspective views showing the elements of the adjusting mechanism of the chair respectively;

FIG. 9 is a rear perspective view showing the operation of the adjusting mechanism of the chair by the user;

FIGS. 10, 11, 12 are partial perspective views showing the operation of the adjusting mechanism of the chair; and

FIGS. 13, 14 are enlarged partial plane views showing the operation of the adjusting mechanism of the chair

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring to the drawings, and initially to FIGS. 1-8, a chair in accordance with the present invention comprises an actuator 77, such as a pneumatic cylinder or a hydraulic cylinder, disposed on top of a support or a leg device 78 and extended upward from the leg device 78. A base 4 includes

a hub **400** secured on top of the actuator **77** and includes an orifice **41** formed therein and spaced from the hub **400**, and includes a conduit **410** laterally extended from the front portion thereof and includes a hole **411** formed in the front portion thereof. The conduit **410** of the base **4** includes a hole **48** formed therein and a peripheral groove **49** formed in the outer peripheral portion of the free end thereof. The actuator **77** includes an actuator button **79** (FIGS. **4**, **11**) provided on top thereof and engaged or extended inward of the base **4**.

A barrel **500** includes a bore **519** (FIG. **7**) formed therein for rotatably receiving and for rotatably engaging onto the conduit **410** of the base **4**, and includes a handle **512** provided thereon, particularly provided on the outer portion or on the free end portion for rotating the barrel **500** relative to the conduit **410** of the base **4**. As shown in FIG. **9**, the barrel **500** or the handle **512** of the barrel **500** may be easily rotated and actuated by the users. A fastener **59** (FIG. **4**) may be engaged through a hole **510** of the barrel **500** and engaged into the peripheral groove **49** of the conduit **410**, such that the barrel **500** may be rotatably secured onto the conduit **410** by the fastener **59** and will not be disengaged from the conduit **410**.

A spring **44** (FIGS. **2**, **3**, **11**) has two legs **441** rotatably engaged through the holes **47** of the base **4**, and includes an actuating arm **43** extended therefrom and engaged on the actuator button **79** of the actuator **77** (FIG. **11**) for depressing and actuating the actuator **77** and for allowing the actuator **77** to adjust the chair to different heights before the actuating arm **43** of the spring **44** is disengaged from the actuator button **79** of the actuator **77**. The spring **44** includes an extension **45** extended therefrom and extended outward of the base **4** for engaging into a cavity **518** (FIG. **7**) of the barrel **500**. When the barrel **500** is rotated relative to the conduit **410** by the user, the spring **44** may be rotated about the legs **441** thereof such that the actuator arm **43** of the spring **44** may actuate the actuator button **79** of the actuator **77** to adjust the chair to different heights. Accordingly, the actuator **77** may be easily actuated by rotating the barrel **500**.

A bar **3** includes a hole **35** formed in the middle portion thereof. A pivot shaft **29** is engaged through a hole **46** of the base **4** and the hole **35** of the bar **3** for rotatably or pivotally securing the middle portion of the bar **3** in the end portion of the base **4** with the pivot shaft **29**, and for allowing the bar **3** to be rotated relative to the base **4** about the pivot shaft **29**. A lock nut **31** may be threaded to the pivot shaft **29** for solidly securing the pivot shaft **29** to the base **4** and the bar **3**. A seat back **73** has a lower portion secured to the rear end of the bar **3** with fasteners **33** such that the bar **3** may be rotated relative to the base **4** by depressing the seat back **73** by the users. The bar **3** includes a front portion having a number of apertures **36** and an orifice **37** formed therein, in which the orifice **37** of the bar **3** is aligned with the orifice **41** of the base **4**.

A coupler **2** includes two pairs of holes **21**, **24**; and **22**, **23** formed in the rear portion and the front portion thereof respectively (FIGS. **3**, **6**). A pivot axle **412** is engaged through a rear hole **34** of the bar **3** and the rear holes **21**, **24** of the coupler **2** and threaded with a lock nut **32** for pivotally or rotatably coupling the rear portion of the coupler **2** to the rear portion of the bar **3**. A board **1** includes two ribs **15**, **17** extended downward therefrom and each having a rear hole **14**, **11** and a front hole **13**, **12** formed therein (FIG. **5**). A seat cushion **72** is secured on top of the board **1** for supporting the user. A pole **25** is engaged through the rear holes **14**, **11** of the board **1** and the front holes **22**, **23** of the coupler **2** and is threaded to a lock nut **28** for rotatably or pivotally

securing the rear portion of the board **1** to the front portion of the coupler **2**. Another pole **26** is engaged through the front holes **12**, **13** of the board **1** and the front hole **411** of the base **4** and is threaded to a lock nut **27** for rotatably or pivotally securing the front portion of the board **1** to the front portion of the base **4**.

It is to be noted that the coupler **2** is rotatably or pivotally secured between the bar **3** and the board **1**, the board **1** may be rotated relative to the base **4** about the pole **26** and may be rotated relative to the coupler **2** about the pole **25**, and the coupler **2** may be rotated relative to the bar **3**, and the bar **3** may be rotated relative to the base **4**.

The board **1** includes an orifice **110** formed in the middle portion thereof and aligned with the orifices **37**, **41** of the bar **3** and of the base **4**. As shown in FIG. **10**, a rod **19** is engaged through the orifices **110**, **37**, **41** of the board **1** and of the bar **3** and of the base **4**, and includes an enlarged head **16** provided on top thereof and engaged with the board **1**, such that the rod **19** may be moved up and down by the board **1**. A stop **63** includes a screw hole **62** formed therein for threading to the bottom of the rod **19**. A spring biasing device **6** includes one or more washers **61**, **611**, **66** and a sleeve **64** and a casing **68** engaged on the rod **19** and engaged between the base **4** and the stop **63**, and a spring **612** engaged in the sleeve **64** and the casing **68** for biasing the rod **19** and thus the board **1** downward toward the base **4**. The casing **68** includes an upper portion **69** engaged with the base **4**, and includes a lower peripheral flange **610** extended radially outward therefrom for engaging with an upper peripheral flange **65** of the sleeve **64** and for limiting the relative sliding movement of the sleeve **64** and the casing **68** and for preventing the casing **68** from being disengaged from the sleeve **64**, and for retaining the spring **612** within the sleeve **64** and the casing **68**.

As shown in FIGS. **2-4**, **8**, **11** and **12**, a follower **522** is slidably received in a bore **501** of the barrel **500** and includes a slot **524** formed in one end **526** thereof and slidably receiving a guide rib **511** of the barrel **500** such that the follower **522** may be guided to slide along the bore **501** of the barrel **500** and may not be rotated relative to the barrel **500**. The follower **522** includes a bore **53** formed therein for partially receiving a latch **520**. The latch **520** is engaged through the hole **48** of the conduit **410** of the base **4** for engaging with either of the apertures **36** of the bar **3** and for adjustably securing the bar **3** and thus the seat cushion **72** relative to the base **4** at different or at the selected angular position. A spring **51** is engaged between the latch **520** and the conduit **410** for biasing the latch **520** away from the bar **3** and for allowing the bar **3** to be adjusted relative to the base **4** to any suitable or selected angular position.

The follower **522** includes one or more notches **525** formed in the outer peripheral portion thereof and formed or defined between ratchet teeth **54**, and includes one or more recesses **523** formed in the tips of the ratchet teeth **54** respectively (FIG. **4**). It is to be noted that the notches **525** are formed between the ratchet teeth **54**, and the recesses **523** are formed in the tips of the ratchet teeth **54** respectively, such that the depth of the recesses **523** is less or smaller than that of the notches **525** of the follower **522**.

A tube **517** is rotatably received in the barrel **500** and includes a notch **58** and a screw hole **57** formed in the outer end thereof. A knob **513** includes a hole **515** formed therein and includes a projection **516** extended from one end thereof (FIG. **8**) and engaged with the notch **58** of the tube **517**, and a fastener **514** is engaged through the hole **515** of the knob **513** and threaded to the screw hole **57** of the tube **517** such

that the knob **513** may be solidly secured to the tube **517** and such that the tube **517** may be rotated relative to the barrel **500** by the knob **513**. The tube **517** includes a bore **521** formed therein for rotatably receiving the follower **522**, and includes one or more ratchet teeth **56** extended from the inner end thereof for engaging with the ratchet teeth **54** of the follower **522** and for engaging into either the notches **525** or the recesses **523** of the follower **522**.

In operation, as shown in FIGS. **12**, when the tube **517** is rotated by the user with the knob **513**, the follower **522** and thus the latch **520** may be forced to engage into either of the apertures **36** of the bar **3** in order to secure the bar **3** and the seat cushion **72** at any selected angular position relative to the base **4**, by the sliding engagement between the ratchet teeth **56**, **54**. The ratchet teeth **56** of the tube **517** may be engaged in the recesses **523** of the ratchet teeth **54** of the follower **522** (FIG. **13**), and the spring **51** may bias the follower **522** against the tube **517** for biasing and maintaining the ratchet teeth **56** in the recesses **523** of the ratchet teeth **54**, and thus for retaining the latch **520** in the aperture **36** of the bar **3**.

The ratchet teeth **56** of the tube **517** may be disengaged from the recesses **523** of the ratchet teeth **54** of the follower **522** (FIG. **14**) by rotating the tube **517** relative to the barrel **500** with the knob **513**, and the spring **51** may bias the latch **520** away from the bar **3**, for allowing the bar **3** and thus the seat cushion **72** to be adjusted relative to the base **4** to any suitable or selected angular position, when the ratchet teeth **56** of the tube **517** are engaged into the notches **525** of the follower **522**.

When the tube **517** is rotated relative to the follower **522** again to disengage the ratchet teeth **56** of the tube **517** from the notches **525** of the follower **522**, the follower **522** and thus the latch **520** may be forced to move against the spring **51** and may be forced to engage into either of the apertures **36** of the bar **3** again in order to secure the bar **3** and the seat cushion **72** at any selected angular position relative to the base **4** again, by the sliding engagement between the ratchet teeth **56**, **54**.

It is to be noted that the actuator button **79** of the actuator **77** may be easily actuated by rotating the barrel **500** by the user, in order to adjust the seat cushion **72** to different heights. The latch **520** may be easily actuated to engage into either of the apertures **36** of the bar **3** or to be disengaged from the bar **3** by rotating the knob **513**, such that the seat cushion **72** or the seat back **73** may be easily adjusted to different angular position relative to the base **4** by the knob **513**.

Accordingly, the chair in accordance with the present invention includes an adjusting mechanism that may be used for easily adjusting the chair to different heights and/or to different angular positions.

Although this invention has been described with a certain degree of particularity, it is to be understood that the present disclosure has been made by way of example only and that numerous changes in the detailed construction and the combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as hereinafter claimed.

I claim:

1. A chair comprising:

- a) an actuator including an upper portion having an actuator button provided therein,
- b) a base secured on said upper portion of said actuator and including a front portion, said base including a conduit extended therefrom,

- c) a barrel rotatably engaged onto said conduit of said base,
- d) a spring engaged in said base and including an actuator arm engaged on said actuator button of said actuator, said spring including an extension extended therefrom and engaged with said barrel for allowing said spring to be rotated relative to said base by said extension of said spring and said barrel,
- e) a bar including a middle portion pivotally secured to said base with a pivot shaft, and including a rear portion, and including a front portion having a plurality of apertures formed therein,
- f) a seat back secured to said rear portion of said bar,
- g) a latch slidably received in said conduit of said base, and extendible inward of said base to engage with either of said apertures of said bar and to adjustably secure said bar to said base,
- h) a follower slidably received in said barrel and having a bore formed therein for slidably receiving said latch,
- i) a tube rotatably received in said barrel and having a bore formed therein for slidably and partially receiving said follower, and
- j) means for moving said follower and said latch toward said bar when said tube is rotated relative to said follower.

2. The chair according to claim **1**, wherein said moving means includes a plurality of ratchet teeth formed on said follower and said tube and engaged with each other.

3. The chair according to claim **2**, wherein said follower includes a plurality of notches formed between said ratchet teeth thereof, said ratchet teeth of said follower each includes a recess formed therein for receiving said ratchet teeth of said tube.

4. The chair according to claim **1** further comprising a knob secured to said tube for rotating said tube relative to said barrel.

5. The chair according to claim **1** further comprising means for preventing said follower from rotating relative to said barrel.

6. The chair according to claim **1** further comprising a coupler including a rear portion pivotally secured to said rear portion of said bar and including a front portion, a board including a front portion pivotally secured to said front portion of said base with a first pivot pole and including a rear portion pivotally secured to said front portion of said coupler with a second pivot pole.

7. The chair according to claim **6** further comprising a rod having a first end engaged with said board and having a second end extended through said base and extended downward beyond said base, and a spring member engaged between said second end of said rod and said base.

8. The chair according to claim **7** further comprising a sleeve and a casing engaged on said rod and slidably engaged with each other, said spring member is received in said sleeve and said casing.

9. The chair according to claim **8**, wherein said sleeve includes a peripheral flange formed thereon, said casing also includes a peripheral flange formed thereon and engaged with said peripheral flange of said sleeve for limiting said sleeve to move relative to said casing and to prevent said sleeve from being disengaged from said casing.